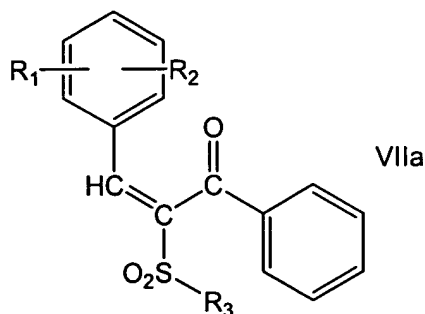


dimethylamino(C2-C6 alkoxy), C1-C6 trifluoroalkoxy and trifluoromethyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. The method according to claim 24 wherein the cytoprotective compound is according to formula VIIa:



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, C1-C8 alkyl, C1-8 alkoxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, hydroxy, and trifluoromethyl; and

R<sub>3</sub> is selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted phenyl, mono-substituted phenyl and di-substituted phenyl, the substituents on the phenyl ring being independently selected from the group consisting of halogen and C1-8 alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the cytoprotective compound is 2-(phenylsulfonyl)-1-phenyl-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-propen-1-one.

27. The method according to claim 1, wherein the animal is a human being.

28. The method according to claim 18, wherein the animal is a human being.